WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing apparatus comprising:

    detecting means for detecting, in an entered image signal, a high-luminance portion that exceeds a

5   predetermined value;

    generating means for generating a control signal, which has a prescribed waveform at the periphery of the high-luminance portion of the image signal, in dependence upon the detection made by said detecting

10 means;

    separating means for separating a color signal from the image signal; and

    suppression means for suppressing the separated color signal by the control signal.

15 2. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

    first storage means for storing an output from said detecting means, wherein said generating means generates the control signal in dependence upon an output from

20 said first storage means; and

    second storage means for storing this control signal, wherein said suppression means suppresses the color signal using the control signal read out of said second storage means.

25 3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image signal is a signal of an image captured by image

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sensing means, and said detecting means detects a

saturated portion of said image sensing means as the

high-luminance portion.

4.   The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the

5   control signal has a waveform for obtaining a

suppression characteristic in which gain of the color

signal is made zero in the high-luminance portion and

suppression is reduced with distance from the high-

luminance portion toward the periphery thereof and is

10   eliminated at a location beyond a predetermined distance

from the high-luminance portion.

5.   An image processing method comprising:

a detecting step of detecting, in an entered image

signal, a high-luminance portion that exceeds a

15   predetermined value;

a generating step of generating a control signal,

which has a prescribed waveform at the periphery of the

sensed high-luminance portion of the image signal;

a separating step of separating a color signal from

20   the image signal; and

a suppression step of suppressing the separated

color signal by the control signal.

6.   The method according to claim 5, further comprising:

a first storage step of storing the detected high-

25   luminance portion, wherein said generating step

generates the control signal in dependence upon this

stored high-luminance portion; and

a second storage step of storing this control signal, wherein said suppression step suppresses the color signal upon reading out the stored control signal.

5   7.   The method according to claim 5, wherein the image signal is a signal of an image captured by image sensing means, and said detecting step detects a saturated portion of said image sensing means as the high-luminance portion.

10   8.   The method according to claim 5, wherein the control signal has a waveform for obtaining a suppression characteristic in which gain of the color signal is made zero in the high-luminance portion and suppression is reduced with distance from the high-luminance portion

15   toward the periphery thereof and is eliminated at a location beyond a predetermined distance from the high-luminance portion.

9.   A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for executing:

20   detection processing for detecting, in an entered image signal, a high-luminance portion that exceeds a predetermined value;

generation processing for generating a control signal, which has a prescribed waveform at the periphery

25   of the sensed high-luminance portion of the image signal;

separation processing for separating a color signal
from the image signal; and

suppression processing for suppressing the
separated color signal by the control signal.

5   10.   The storage medium according to claim 9, said
storage medium further storing:

a program for executing processing for storing the
detected high-luminance portion, wherein said generating
processing generates the control signal in dependence

10   upon this stored high-luminance portion; and

a program for executing processing for storing this
control signal, wherein said suppression processing
suppresses the color signal upon reading out the stored
control signal.

15   11.   The storage medium according to claim 9, wherein
the image signal is a signal of an image captured by
image sensing means, and said detecting processing
detects a saturated portion of said image sensing means
as the high-luminance portion.

20   12.   The storage medium according to claim 9, wherein
the control signal has a waveform for obtaining a
suppression characteristic in which gain of the color
signal is made zero in the high-luminance portion and
suppression is reduced with distance from the high-

25   luminance portion toward the periphery thereof and is
eliminated at a location beyond a predetermined distance

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from the high-luminance portion.